

H. Res. 170

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

April 9, 2003.

Whereas the U.S.S. Thresher was first launched at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard on July 9, 1960;

Whereas, with a crew of 16 officers, 96 sailors, and 17 civilians, the U.S.S. Thresher departed Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for her final voyage on April 9, 1963;

Whereas the military and civilian mix of the U.S.S. Thresher crew reflects the unity of the naval submarine service in the protection of the United States;

Whereas at approximately 7:47 a.m. on April 10, 1963, while in communication with the surface ship U.S.S. Skylark, and approximately 300 miles off the coast of New England, the U.S.S. Thresher began her final descent;

Whereas, on April 10, 1963, the U.S.S. Thresher was declared lost with all hands;

Whereas the loss of the U.S.S. Thresher gave rise to the SUBSAFE program, which has kept United States' submariners safe at sea as the strongest and safest submarine force in history;

Whereas the loss of the U.S.S. Thresher gave rise to an ocean engineering curricula in institutions of higher education that has enabled and sustained the United States' preeminence in submarine warfare; and

Whereas the crew of the U.S.S. Thresher demonstrated the “last full measure of devotion” in service to the United States, and this devotion characterizes the sacrifices of all submariners, past and present: Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 40th anniversary of the sinking of the U.S.S. Thresher;

(2) remembers with profound sorrow the loss on April 10, 1963, of the U.S.S. Thresher and her gallant crew of sailors and civilians;

(3) expresses its deepest gratitude to all submariners on “eternal patrol”, who are forever bound together by their dedicated and honorable service to the United States; and

(4) requests the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chief of Naval Operations and to the Commanding Officer of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard to be accepted on behalf of the families and shipmates of the crew of the U.S.S. Thresher.

Attest:

Clerk.